

MINUTES
KNOXVILLE TREE BOARD
JUNE 4, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Dale Madden at 8:35 a.m. Other board members present were Tom Welborn, Jenny Arthur, Craig Walker, Daniel Steinhoff, Andrew Caylor, Robert Graves, Anna Toon, and Tracy Polite-Johnson.

Ex officio members present were Kasey Krouse, Urban Forestry; Lee Rumble, UT Ag Extension; and David McGinley, Stormwater Engineering.

Visitors were Tracie Hellwinckel, Project Manager for Trees Knoxville; and Rachel Butzler, Public Service Deputy Director.

Action Items for June

- Approve March minutes.

City Update by Kasey Krouse

- Kasey reported that his crew is out watering, and work request have increased.
- TAEP grant request has been submitted.
- Quite a bit of work has been done in the Fort Sanders area. They've been partnering with KUB to complete a lot of work.

Education Report & Arbor Day by Craig Walker

- Craig asked the group for ideas about things that the Education Committee can do virtually.
- Lee Rumble offered his help, since he's been involved with several virtual events.
- Tom Welborn suggested a live Arbor Day event on Zoom.

Trees Knoxville Report by Tom Welborn

- Trees Knox received the contract from the TN Division of Forestry to do an urban forest canopy assessment for Knoxville and Knox County. They have been working with several groups to come up with matching funds.
- Maintenance work has begun on some of the old plantings that they've installed.
- Trees Knox has received a donation from CEMEX foundation and Ready-Mix concrete.
- They've worked with several environmental groups to get the Climate Council started.
- Trees Knox has initiated a new campaign called Branching Out.
- Legacy Park has come forward on a couple of projects. One is on Beaver Creek and one will be downtown. More information to come later.

Ex-officio Reports

- David McGinley reported that 42 trees were planted in the lot of the old Kerns Bakery site, and 102 trees were planted on the slope.
- David reported that work is coming to a close at the Blount Avenue site.

Other Reports and Comments

- Dale commented that most events for this year have been put on hold due to Covid19.
- Kasey said that the Volunteer Urban Forestry Program will be held via Zoom beginning July 6th, the class will end with a field day in August. Traci is working on finalizing dates and activities. The fees have been reduced to \$25. Classes will be held on Mondays.
- Drew Caylor suggested virtual educational events for younger children. Will get with Craig and Traci.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 a.m.